

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 1, 2013

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 7, 2013

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 27, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Joint Resolution

No. 4

**Introduced by Assembly Members Hueso and V. Manuel Pérez
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Allen, Ammiano,
Atkins, Bigelow, Bloom, Blumenfield, Bocanegra, Bonilla, Bonta,
Bradford, Brown, Buchanan, Ian Calderon, Campos, Chau,
Chávez, Chesbro, Conway, Cooley, Dahle, Dickinson, Donnelly,
Eggman, Fong, Fox, Frazier, Garcia, Gatto, Gomez, Gordon,
Gorell, Gray, Grove, Hagman, Hall, Harkey, Roger Hernández,
Holden, Jones, Jones-Sawyer, Levine, Linder, Logue, Lowenthal,
Maienschein, Mansoor, Medina, Melendez, Mitchell, Morrell,
Mullin, Muratsuchi, Nazarian, Nestande, Olsen, Pan, Patterson,
Perea, John A. Pérez, Quirk, Quirk-Silva, Rendon, Salas, Skinner,
Ting, Torres, Wagner, Waldron, Weber, Wieckowski, Wilk,
Williams, and Yamada)**

(Coauthors: Senators Block, Cannella, Correa, and Lara)

January 14, 2013

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 4—Relative to the United States-Mexico border.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AJR 4, as amended, Hueso. The United States-Mexico border.

This measure would urge the federal government, including the Department of Homeland Security and the General Services

Administration, to fund necessary improvements at the San Ysidro, Calexico, and Otay Mesa Ports of Entry.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The United States, Canada, and Mexico signed the
2 North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) in 1993 to foster
3 trade among the—three countries, and improve global
4 competitiveness; and

5 WHEREAS, Trade between the United States and Mexico has
6 more than quintupled since the implementation of NAFTA, totaling
7 \$500 billion in bilateral trade in 2011; and

8 WHEREAS, Mexico continues to be California's number one
9 export market with \$25.8 billion in goods exported to Mexico in
10 2011, accounting for 16 percent of all California exports; and

11 WHEREAS, Ninety-nine percent of trade between California
12 and Mexico is carried by trucks; and

13 WHEREAS, The SANDAG 2050 Comprehensive Freight
14 Gateway Study projects that the nearly two million trucks that
15 crossed the California-Mexico border in 2007 will increase to
16 nearly five million trucks in 2050. In 2011, over \$33.5 billion in
17 goods moved between Mexico and the United States at the Otay
18 Mesa Port of Entry and at the Tecate Port of Entry; and

19 WHEREAS, The San Diego and Imperial Counties' border
20 traffic congestion and delays cost the U.S. and Mexican economies
21 an estimated \$8.63 billion in gross output and more than 73,900
22 jobs in 2007; and

23 WHEREAS, New land port of entry and improvement projects
24 are under federal jurisdiction with significant influence over local
25 communities; and

26 WHEREAS, The San Ysidro-Puerta Mexico Land Port of Entry
27 is the busiest port of entry between the United States and Mexico
28 and is undergoing a major reconfiguration and expansion project;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, The Otay Mesa-Mesa de Otay Land Port of Entry
31 has plans for the expansion and modernization of passenger and
32 commercial inspection facilities; and

33 WHEREAS, The Calexico West Port of Entry also has plans to
34 renovate and expand the facility to process and expand its operation
35 for pedestrians and automobiles; and

1 WHEREAS, The collaboration between federal, state, and local
2 agencies is essential for the development of border infrastructure
3 projects and security; and

4 WHEREAS, The General Accountability Office and the
5 Department of Homeland Security estimate that \$6 billion in border
6 infrastructure is needed to fulfill their mission of preventing
7 unlawful entry and smuggling while facilitating legitimate trade
8 and tourism; and

9 WHEREAS, The need for improved border capacity and
10 efficiency comes at a time when traditional federal funding is
11 scarce and increasingly difficult to obtain; and

12 WHEREAS, Since February 2009, Congress and the Obama
13 administration have not funded border infrastructure projects; and

14 WHEREAS, The San Ysidro project has a stated funding gap
15 of \$285 million, the Calexico project needs \$318 million to
16 complete construction, and the Otay Mesa project requires \$161
17 million for completion; and

18 WHEREAS, Various agencies of the United States, including
19 the Department of Homeland Security and the General Services
20 Administration, should work with Congress to provide funding to
21 support these border infrastructure investments; now, therefore,
22 be it

23 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*
24 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature urges the federal
25 government, including the Department of Homeland Security and
26 the General Services Administration, to fund necessary
27 improvements at the San Ysidro, Calexico, and Otay Mesa Ports
28 of Entry; and be it further

29 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
30 of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United
31 States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the
32 Majority Leader of the Senate, and to each Senator and
33 Representative from California in the Congress of the United
34 States.

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